

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 2 and amend claims 1, 6 and 12-15 as shown below. A complete listing of the claims is given here according to the revised format.

1 1. (currently amended) A method for inputting at least one parameter into a
2 computer comprising the following steps:
3 for at least one input parameter, displaying on a display at least one associated
4 primary graphical input device that has a state that is graphically controllable by a user via
5 at least one predetermined primary input action and that corresponds to primary input of a
6 value of the respective input parameter;
7 sensing user selection of the primary graphical input device;
8 associating with the primary graphical input device at least one predetermined non-
9 graphical, secondary input action ~~corresponding to secondary input by the user of the value~~
10 ~~of the respective input parameter;~~
11 while the primary graphical input device is selected:
12 sensing any of the primary as well as any of the secondary input actions of
13 the user;
14 upon sensing a primary input action, setting the value of the input parameter
15 according to the primary input;
16 upon sensing user initiation of any secondary input action:
17 generating on the display a secondary graphical input device;
18 displaying within the secondary graphical input device data entered by
19 the user as secondary input; and
20 upon sensing the secondary input by the user, setting the value of the
21 input parameter according to the secondary input
22 ~~interpreting the sensed input action of the user as input data; and~~
23 ~~setting the value of the input parameter to correspond to the input data.~~

2. (canceled)

1 3. (original) A method as in claim 1, further including the step of associating the
2 values of a plurality of parameters with positions of a corresponding plurality of adjustable
3 displayed portions of a single primary graphical input device.

1 4. (original) A method as in claim 3, further including the following steps:
2 associating a respective activation region of the primary graphical input device with
3 each displayed portion;
4 sensing user selection of one of the activation regions; and
5 upon user initiation of a secondary input action, setting the value of the parameter
6 associated with the selected activation region equal to data entered by the user.

1 5. (original) A method as in claim 3, further including the following steps:
2 associating a single activation region of the primary graphical input device with a
3 plurality of the parameters;
4 sensing user selection of the activation region;
5 sensing entry by the user of a plurality of input values via secondary input action;
6 and
7 setting the values of the respective parameters according to the input values.

1 6. (currently amended) A method as in claim 2 1, further including the following
2 steps:
3 comparing a number of values input by the user into the secondary graphical input
4 device with the number of parameters associated with corresponding displayed portion of
5 the primary graphical input device;
6 if the number of values input is greater than the number of parameters, subdividing
7 an adjustable displayed portion of the primary graphical input device into a number of
8 displayed adjustable portions corresponding to the number of values input; and
9 if the number of values input is less than the number of parameters, joining
10 corresponding ones of the adjustable displayed portions.

1 7. (original) A method as in claim 1, in which the parameter is a query parameter in
2 a database analysis routine.

1 8. (original) A method as in claim 1, in which:
2 the primary graphical input device is a page-selection scroll bar of a word-
3 processing program; and
4 the parameter is a page number.

1 9. (original) A method as in claim 1, in which the input data and input parameter
2 are alphanumeric strings.

1 10. (original) A method as in claim 1, in which:
2 primary user input actions are performed by maneuvering a cursor-control device;
3 and
4 secondary user input actions are performed using an alphanumeric input device.

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1 11. (original) A method as in claim 1, further including the following steps:
2 selecting the primary graphical input device by maneuvering a non-alphanumeric,
3 cursor-control device to position an on-screen cursor on the primary graphical input device;
4 performing the primary input actions using the non-alphanumeric, cursor-control
5 device; and
6 performing the secondary input actions using an alphanumeric input device.

1 12. (currently amended) A method for inputting data into an application executing
2 on a computer, in which the application has a plurality of user-selectable features, the
3 method comprising the following steps:
4 for at least one, first input parameter of a first user-selectable feature of the
5 application, displaying on a display at least one associated graphical input device, which
6 has a state that is graphically controllable by a user via at least one primary user input
7 action and that corresponds to primary input of a value of the first input parameter;
8 sensing user selection of the graphical input device;

9 associating with the graphical input device at least one predetermined non-
10 graphical, secondary input action corresponding to input by the user of at least one
11 secondary input parameter ~~via at least one secondary user action;~~
12 while the graphical input device is selected:
13 sensing both the primary and secondary input actions of the user;
14 ~~upon sensing any primary user action, applying the first input parameter as~~
15 ~~input to the first user-selectable feature; and~~
16 ~~upon sensing any secondary user action, applying the second input~~
17 ~~parameter as input to a second user-selectable feature~~
18 upon sensing a primary input action, setting the value of the input parameter
19 according to the primary input;
20 upon sensing user initiation of any secondary input action:
21 generating on the display a secondary graphical input device;
22 displaying within the secondary graphical input device data entered by
23 the user as secondary input; and
24 upon sensing the secondary input by the user, setting the value of the
25 input parameter according to the secondary input.

13. (currently amended) A method as in claim 12, in which the first input
parameter has a first characteristic, further including the following steps:

upon sensing any secondary ~~user~~ input action, determining an input characteristic of
the secondary input parameter;

if the input characteristic is the same as the first characteristic, applying the
secondary input parameter as input to the first user-selectable feature; and

if the input characteristic differs from the first characteristic, applying the secondary
input parameter as input to the second user-selectable feature.

1 14. (currently amended) A system for inputting at least one parameter into a
2 computer comprising:

3 A) a display;

4 B) a primary physical input device forming means for entering primary user input
5 data;

6 C) a secondary physical input device forming means for entering secondary user
7 input data;

8 D) a memory for storing a value of the parameter for use in an application;

9 E) a display interface means:

10 1) ~~for~~ displaying a primary graphical input device on the display, the primary
11 graphical input device having at least one graphically controllable feature whose state is
12 controllable by the first physical input device and corresponds to a value of the input
13 parameter;

14 2) ~~for~~ sensing user activation of the primary graphical input device;

15 3) ~~for~~ sensing primary and secondary user input actions ~~corresponding,~~
16 ~~respectively, to user entry of the primary and secondary input data;~~

17 4) upon sensing a primary input action, setting the value of the parameter
18 according to user input to the primary graphical input device;

19 5) upon sensing user initiation of any secondary input action:

20 a) generating on the display a secondary graphical input device;

21 b) displaying within the secondary graphical input device data entered
22 by the user as secondary input; and

23 c) upon sensing secondary input by the user, setting the value of the
24 input parameter according to the secondary input.

25 4) ~~for interpreting the sensed input action of the user as valid input data; and~~

26 5) ~~for setting the value of the input parameter to correspond to the valid input~~

27 data.

1 15. (currently amended) A system as in claim 14, in which:
2 the primary physical input device is a non-alphanumeric, cursor-control device
3 ~~forming means for~~ positioning an on-screen cursor on the primary graphical input device;
4 and
5 the secondary physical input device is an alphanumeric input device.
